

Principal's Report September, 2014

NEW STAFF

Teachers: Kevin Brewer - JK, Jamie Andrachuk – grade 2/3, Amanda Allington – Core French;

Tina Gallippi - grade 5/6 (Long Term Occasional for Ms Papadakis).

Special Needs Assistant (SNA): Henriette Rasmussen (Ms Henry)

Early Childhood Educators (ECE): Kate Hauser, Sonia David, Amale-Wok Barrett-Holas, and Soulek Djilani.

Lunchroom supervisors for Kindergarten: (we have hired 3 of the 5) Soula Papadopoulos, Nadia Soliman, and Anne DeAngelis.

Each of the above individuals brings a wealth of experience and expertise to their positions and we are very happy to have them at Palmerston.

Reorganization

We had a fairly smooth start up to the school year on Monday we received notification that as a result of changing student enrolment at our school, we needed to reorganize the English classrooms for grades 1 to 3 to balance classes based upon ministry guidelines, to best support our students. This will not require many moves and will take place on Monday. We are waiting notification of the teacher. We will have a grade 1 class and two 2/3 classes. We have been given 2 more exemptions for our FI primary classes. All other classes will remain the same.

EQAO

I will be reporting on this in October. The results were released today publicly. Overall we did well however Board wide and at Palmerston was much lower in grade 6 math (57/55) and we did go down in grade 3 writing (80/64).

Budget

I will present/review the school budget of 78, 210 next month as we have to submit it by the end of October.

Facilities

The school was up and running well for the beginning of the school year. We did have a rush to get the classes ready for FDK the teachers and Caretaking did an amazing job of preparing the rooms. There are still some items to be completed and hopefully they will be done soon.

We had one practice fire drill this week. We will be having another practice next week and as well a practice Lockdown. These activities take place in a very calm environment and teachers discuss the importance of practicing these drills for their safety. We want them to treat the practice seriously however it is not intended to scare anyone.

Extracurricular Activities

We have started Running club on Mon/Wed/Fri mornings for all Primary and junior students. Softball and Football tryouts have begun for the boys and girls teams.

Fundraising Activities

At the present time the only planned fundraising events for this term until the new year, will be our Terry Fox Run in September and our monthly Spirit Days popcorn sales. The money for these sales will be determined before the sale and parents will be told in advanced through the Blog how the money will be used.

Upcoming Dates to note:

Curriculum Night	October 1, Wednesday - Primary visits 6:30PM -
Junior visits 7PM	
Cross Country Run	October 7 Ashbridges Bay
Thanksgiving	October 13, Monday (no school)
Photo Day	October 14, Tuesday
PA Day	November 14, Friday (no school)
Progress Reports	December 2, Tuesday
Parent/Teacher interviews	December 5, Friday (no school)
Christmas Break	December 22 – January 2